



# Echocardiography in Systemic Diseases

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## DISCLOSURE

### Relevant Financial Relationship(s)

Advisory Council: Siemens Healthcare,  
Ultrasound

### Off Label Usage

None



## Echo in Systemic Diseases

- Systemic diseases with secondary cardiac involvement are uncommon

### But

- Echo can identify unique, characteristic features and echo may be the first clue to the underlying systemic illness

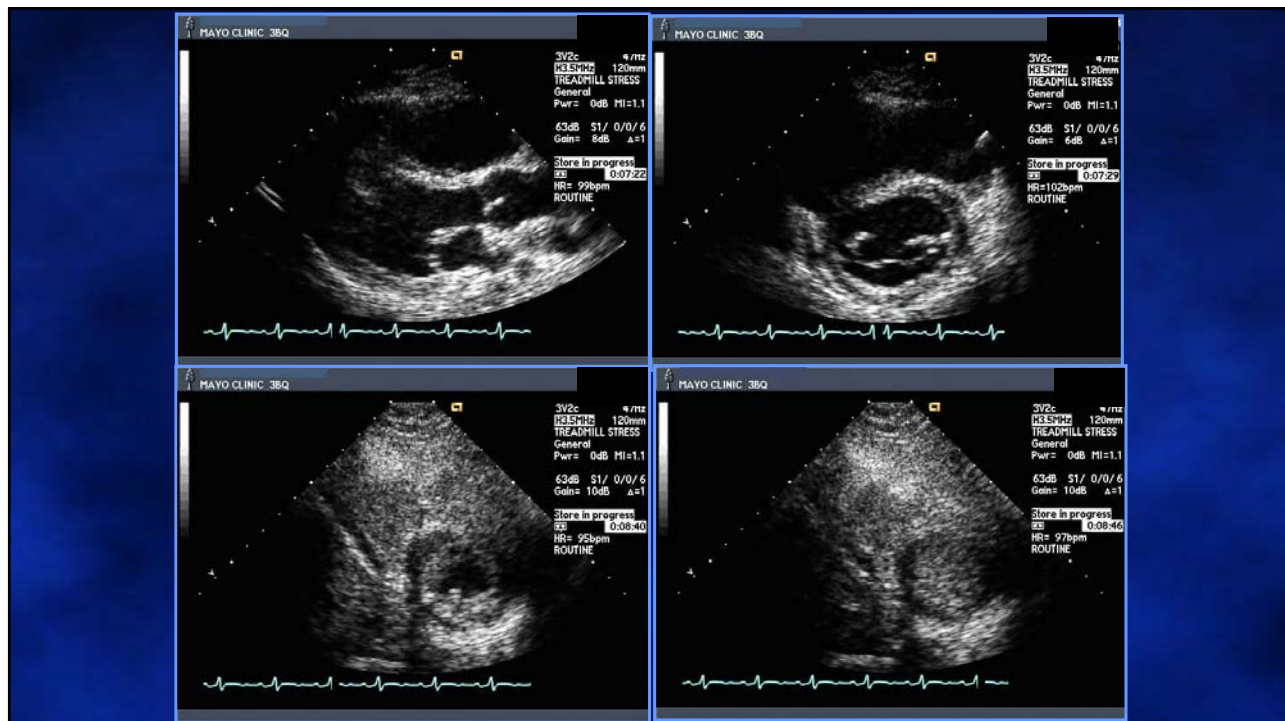
## Cardiac Involvement in Systemic Diseases

- Autoimmune
- Endocrine
- Collagen Vascular Diseases
- Malignancy
- Amyloid/Infiltrative Diseases
- Radiation Induced Heart Disease
- Drug Induced Valvulopathy



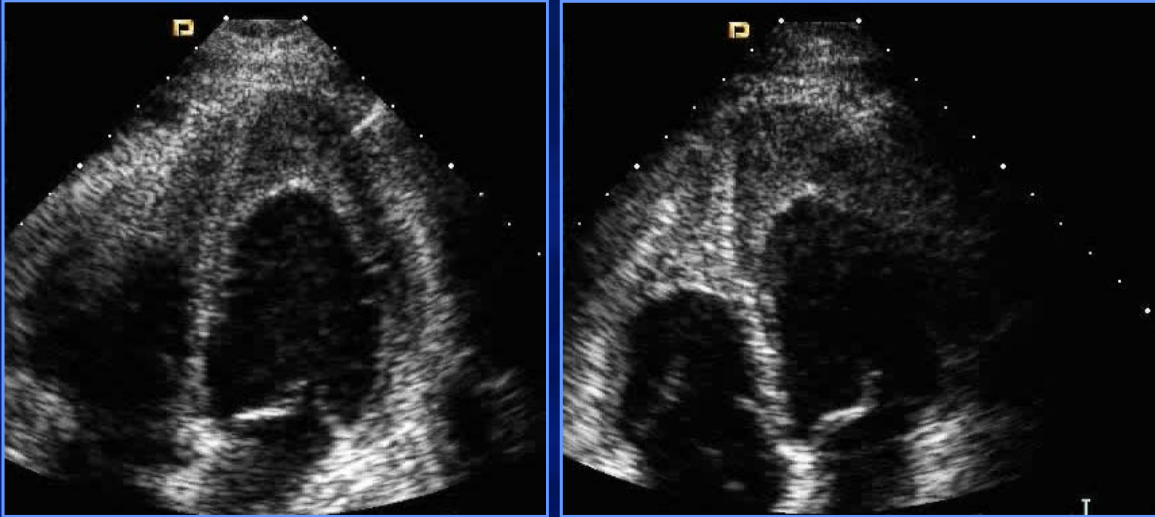
## Case

- 27 y/o female who presents with dyspnea, chest pain, and fatigue
  - NYHA class III
- Abnormal nuclear perfusion stress test led to coronary arteriography
  - Normal coronaries but LV gram suggestive of “Hypertrophic CM” (EF 75%)
- Elevated Sedimentation Rate
- Referred to Mayo Clinic → Echo performed





## Apical 4 Chamber Views



## Diastolic Function



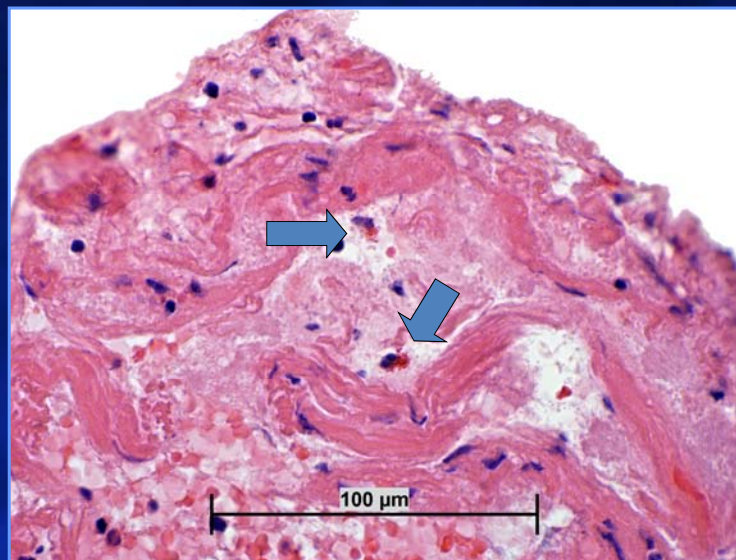
- MV Dec. Time = 105 msec
- MV Emax = 1.1 m/sec
- $e' = 0.04$  m/sec
- $E/e' = 28$



## What is the Diagnosis?

1. Hypertrophic Cardiomyopathy (Apical Variant)
2. Amyloidosis
3. Eosinophilic Endomyocardial Disease
4. LV Noncompaction
5. LV Myxoma

## RV Biopsy (H&E Stain)





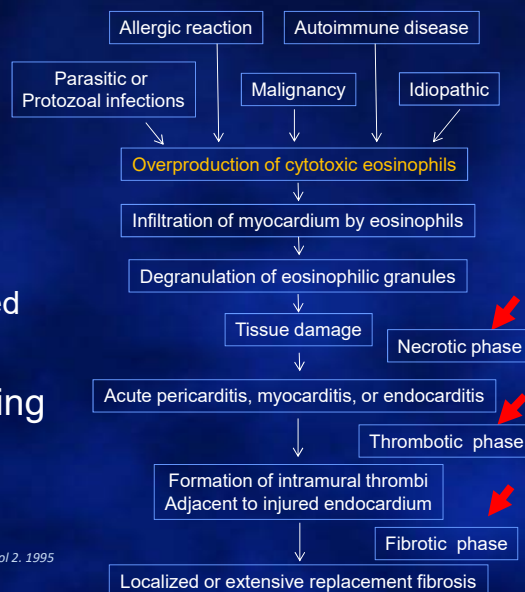
## Hypereosinophilic Syndrome Cardiac Manifestations

- Persistent increase in eosinophil count eosinophil count  $> 1500$  cells/mm<sup>3</sup>
- CHF (dyspnea)
  - Restrictive Cardiomyopathy
  - Mitral regurgitation
- Systemic embolization

## Eosinophilic Heart Disease

### 4 Stages:

- 1) Acute inflammatory myocarditis
- 2) Eosinophil rich thrombus deposition
  - Mediated by injured endothelium
- 3) Endocardial thickening
  - Valve involvement
- 4) Fibrosis



Adapted from Hirota Y: In Abelman WH, Braunwald E [eds]: Atlas of Heart Diseases. Vol 2. 1995



## Hypereosinophilic Syndrome (HES)

Cardiac Involvement: 40-60% of patients

2-D Echo  
& Doppler  
Findings

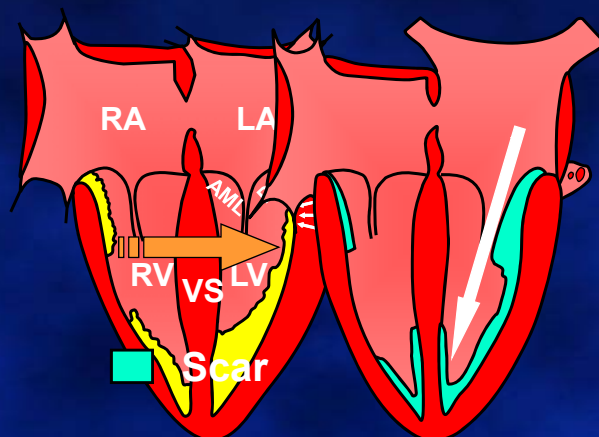
LV > RV inflow apical  
thrombo-obliteration,  
endocardial thickening

Restrictive diastolic  
dysfunction

Subvalvular thrombosis,  
leaflet entrapment MV > TV  
Leaflets; MR&TR

*Ommen, Am J Cardiol 2000*

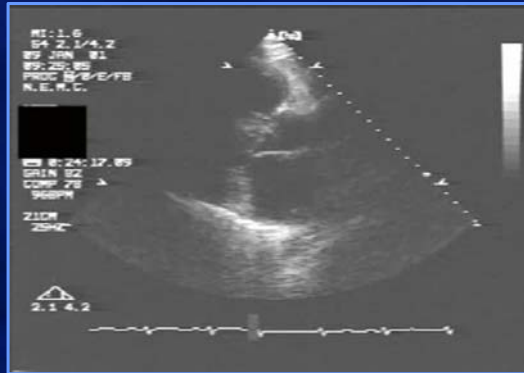
## Natural History Hypereosinophilic Syndrome



Myocarditis → Thrombus → Fibrosis



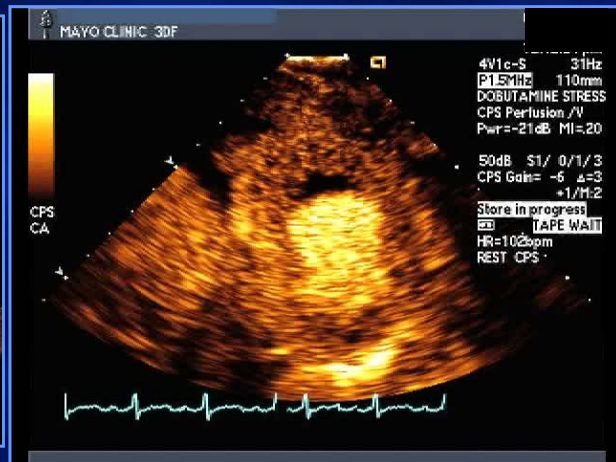
## Basal LV Fibrosis with Mitral Posterior Leaflet Tethering



- Courtesy of Dr. Natesa Pandian

MAYO CLINIC

## Eosinophilic Heart Disease Contrast Helpful





## Hypereosinophilic Syndrome

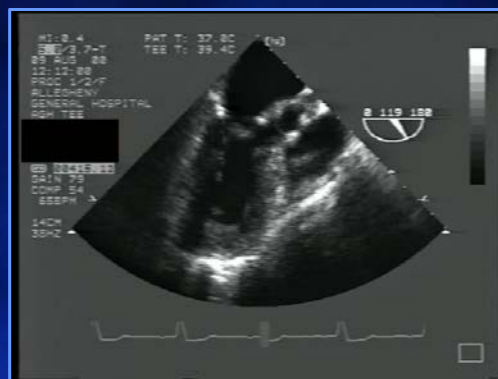
### Treatment

- Medical therapy
  - Corticosteroids
  - Hydroxyurea
  - Interferon
  - CHF Meds
- Surgical Therapy
  - Palliative

### Echo Differential Diagnosis

- Apical hypertrophic CM
- LV Noncompaction
- LV tumor
  - Myxoma
  - Papillary fibroelastoma
- Ischemic LV dysfunction with apical thrombus

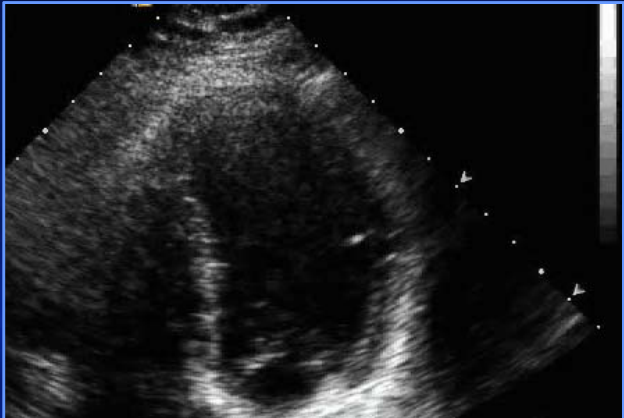
## Differential Diagnosis: LV Myxoma





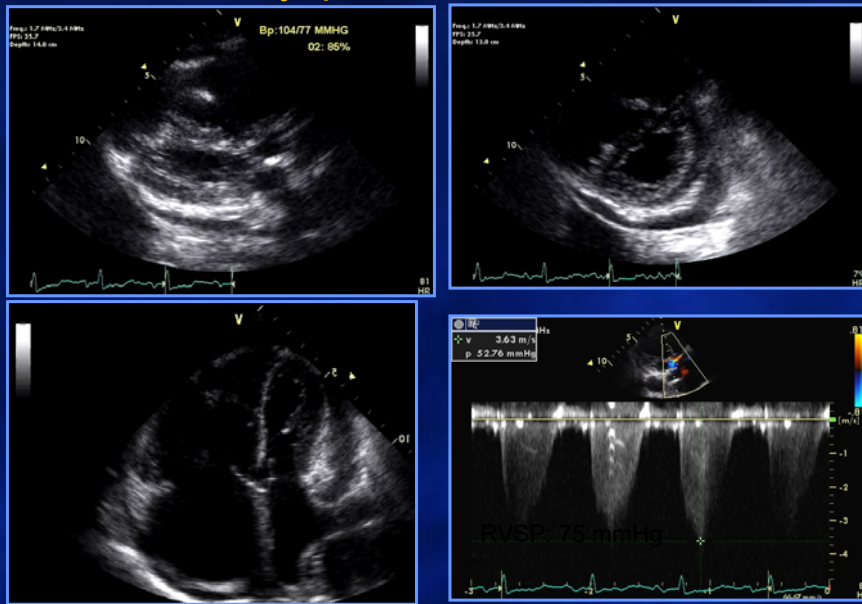
## Our Case:

TTE after 2 months of anticoagulation  
and 1 month of prednisone therapy





## Patient with CREST Syndrome: Dyspnea and Edema

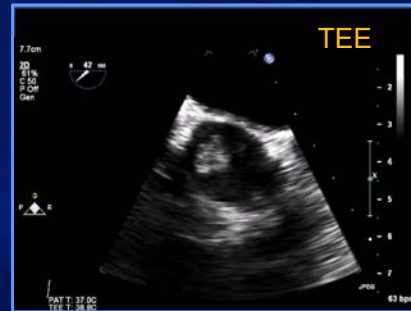
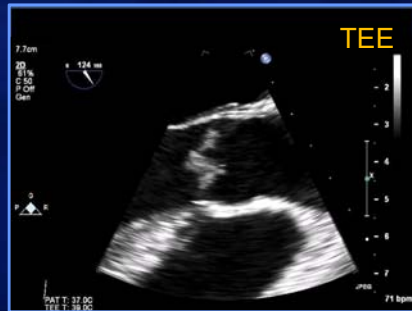


## Scleroderma and Pulmonary HTN

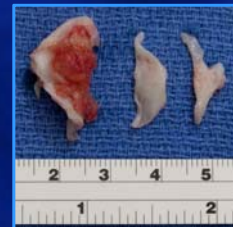
- PH present in 8-12% of scleroderma patients
  - Higher risk in CREST patients
- Accounts for 30% of deaths
- Screening for PH recommended
- RV dysfunction, cardiac index and pericardial effusion are markers of poor prognosis in PH



## 33 Year Old Female → Multiple Strokes

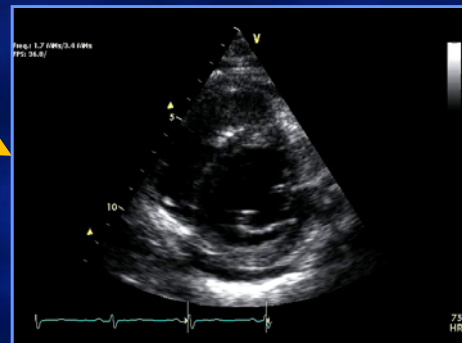


- ANA positive and Antiphospholipid antibodies present
- Libman-Sacks endocarditis



## Systemic Lupus Erythematosus Cardiac Involvement

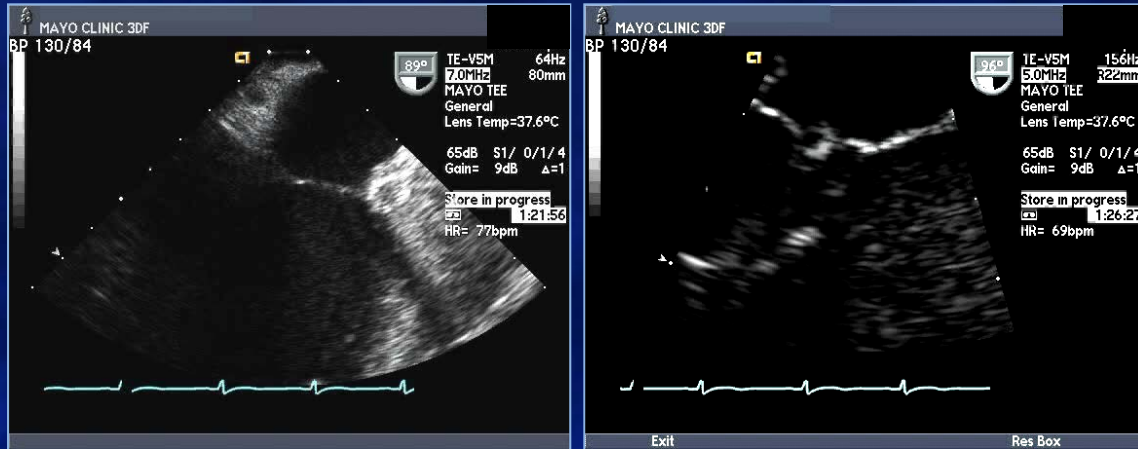
- Pericarditis (fluid ANA+)
  - 50-60% of cases have pericardial effusions
- Lupus anticoagulant
- Anticardiolipin or Antiphospholipid Abs
- Myocarditis
- Coronary arteritis
- Libman-Sacks (Marantic) vegetations





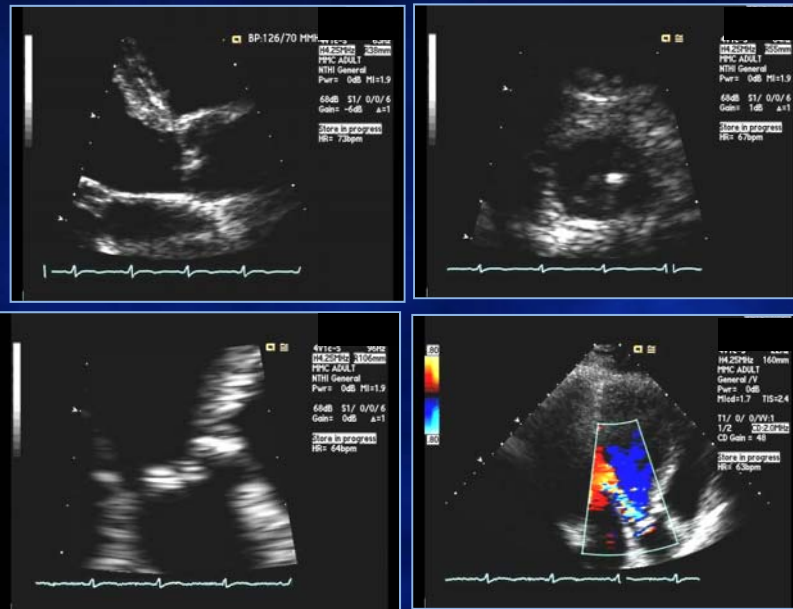
# 18 y.o. Female with Occipital Stroke

## TEE



- Lupus anticoagulant + antiphospholipid antibodies present
- Libman-Sacks endocarditis

## Not only the mitral valve!





## Antiphospholipid Syndrome

### Diagnosis confirmed at surgery



- IgG and IgM  
Antiphospholipid antibody
- Importance of recognition
  - Unlikely repair
  - Choice of prosthesis??
  - Anticoagulation??

## Systemic Lupus Erythematosus

### Cardiac Involvement

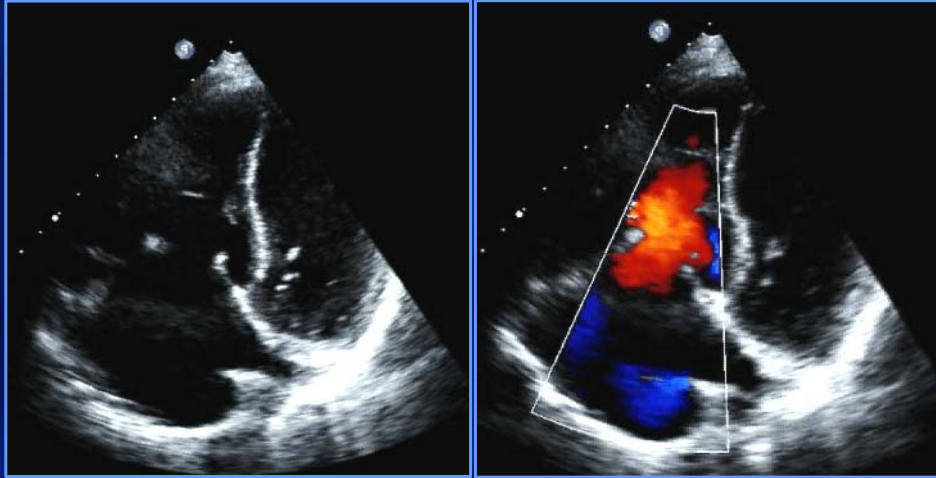
- Pericarditis (fluid ANA+)
- Lupus anticoagulant
- Anticardiolipin antibodies
- Myocarditis
- Coronary arteritis
- Libman-Sacks (Marantic)  
vegetations



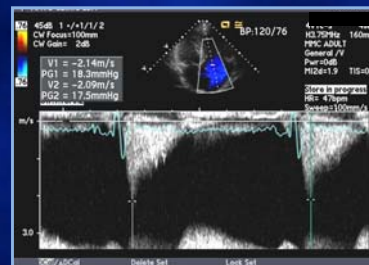
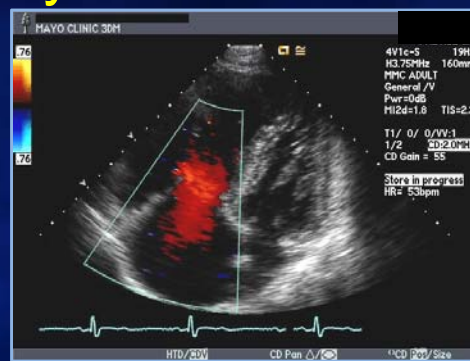
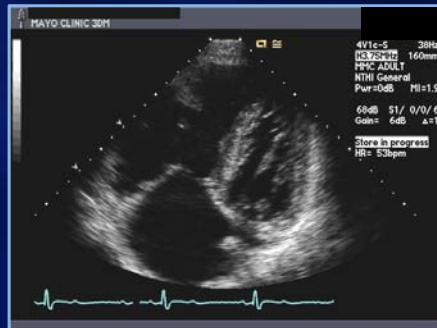
Courtesy of W Edwards MD



## 39 year old male with diarrhea, flushing and weight loss

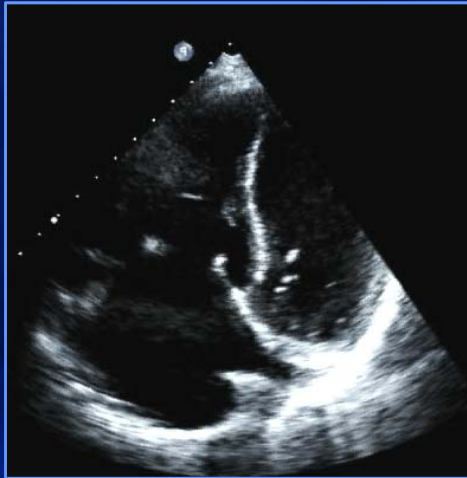


## Carcinoid Syndrome





## Carcinoid: Echo Features



### Tricuspid valve

- Thickened leaflets
- Retracted leaflets
- Fixed semi-open position

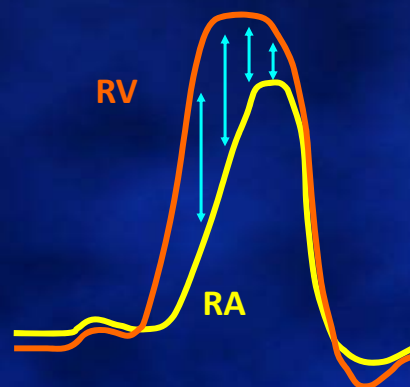
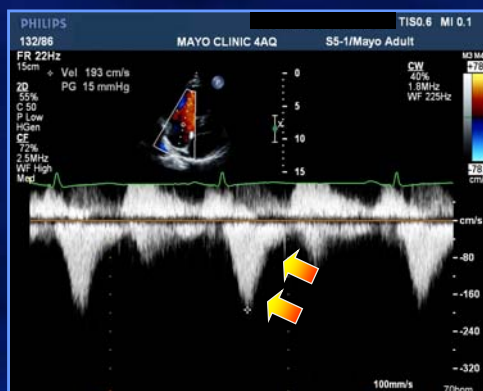
### Pulmonary valve

- Thickened cusps
- Retracted and rigid

*Connolly HM. Curr Cardiol Rep. 2006*

## Severe (Torrential) Tricuspid Regurgitation Systolic RV → RA pressure equalization

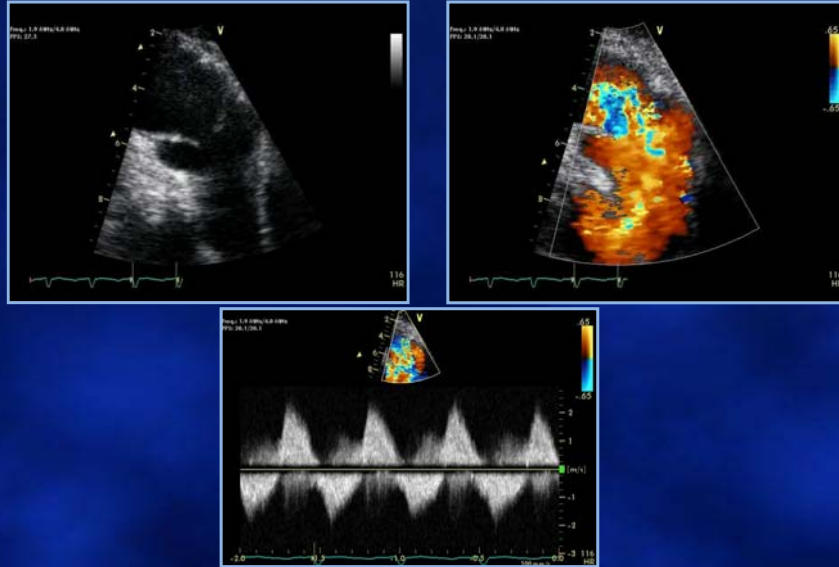
### TR CW Doppler



Courtesy of Dr. WK Freeman



## Pulmonary Valve Involvement



## Pulmonary Valve Involvement



Adapted from Mayo Image Data Base, William Edwards, MD

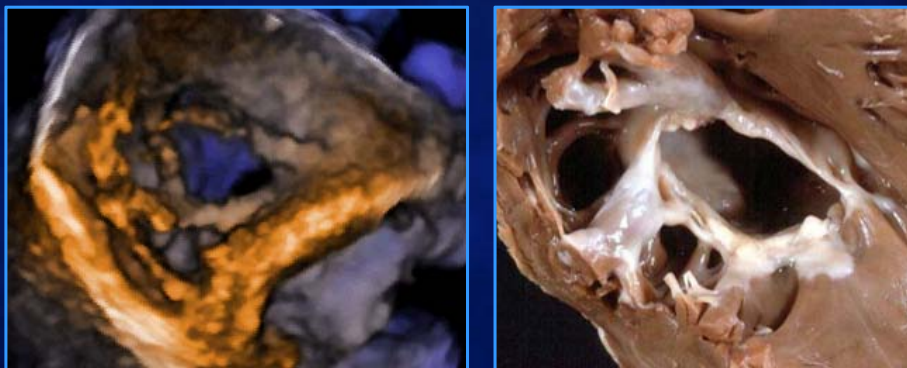


## Carcinoid Heart Disease

- Carcinoid tumors: 1-2/100,000
- Carcinoid syndrome in 20-30%
- Deposition of a matrix-like material on the valves and endocardium of the right side of the heart
- Treatment of tumor does not cause regression of valve disease

*Connolly HM. Curr Cardiol Rep. 2006*

## Carcinoid Syndrome: 3D TTE



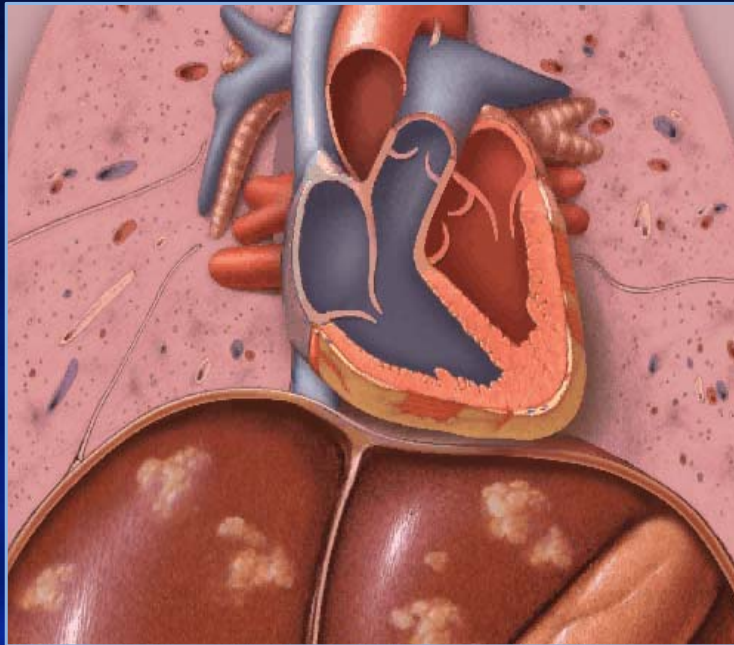
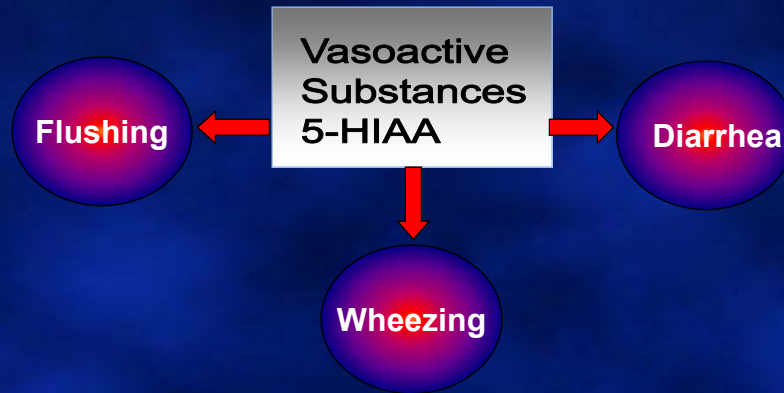
Courtesy of Denisa Muraru, MD, PhD  
Padua, Italy

*Eur Heart J Cardiovasc Imaging 2012*



# Carcinoid Heart Disease

Over 50% of patients with Carcinoid Syndrome develop cardiac involvement



Courtesy of Dr. Heidi Connolly



## Outcome of Cardiac Surgery for Carcinoid Heart Disease

HEIDI M. CONNOLLY, MD, FACC, RICK A. NISHIMURA, MD, FACC, HUGH C. SMITH, MD, FACC,  
PATRICIA A. PELLIKKA, MD, FACC, CHARLES J. MULLANY, MD, LARRY K. KVOLS, MD

Rochester, Minnesota

**Objectives.** The hypothesis was that cardiac surgery for symptomatic carcinoid heart disease in conjunction with adjunctive therapy could improve the long-term outlook of patients with carcinoid heart disease.

**Background.** Patients with carcinoid heart disease have a dismal prognosis; most die of progressive right heart failure within 1 year after onset of symptoms. Improved therapies for the systemic manifestations of the carcinoid syndrome have resulted in symptomatic improvement and prolonged survival in patients without heart disease.

**Methods.** Twenty-six patients with symptomatic carcinoid heart disease underwent valvular surgery. Preoperative clinical, laboratory, Doppler echocardiographic and hemodynamic factors were evaluated. The survival of the surgical group was compared with that of a control group of 40 medically treated patients.

**Results.** There were nine perioperative deaths (35%), primarily from postoperative bleeding and right ventricular failure. Of the 17 surgical survivors, 8 were alive at a mean of 28 months of

follow-up. The postoperative functional class of the eight surviving patients was substantially improved. Late deaths were primarily due to hepatic dysfunction caused by metastatic disease. The only predictor of operative mortality ( $p = 0.03$ ) was low voltage on preoperative electrocardiography (limb lead voltage  $\leq 5$  mm). Predictors of late survival included a lower preoperative somatostatin requirement and a lower preoperative urinary 5-hydroxyindoleacetic acid level. There was a trend toward increased survival for the surgical group compared with the control group.

**Conclusions.** Because new therapies have improved survival in patients with the malignant carcinoid syndrome, cardiac involvement has become a major cause of morbidity and mortality. Valve surgery is the only definitive treatment. Although cardiac surgery carries a high perioperative mortality, marked symptomatic improvement occurs in survivors. Surgical intervention should therefore be considered when cardiac symptoms become severe.

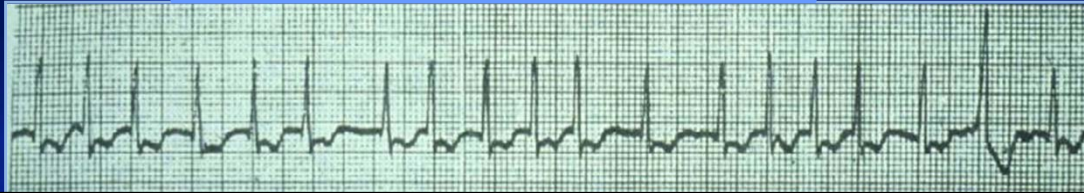
(*J Am Coll Cardiol* 1995;25:410-6)

## Carcinoid Tumor: : Liver Metastases





58 yo woman with weight loss,  
tremor and HR of 125



## Hyperthyroidism

- Atrial fibrillation
  - difficult to rate control
- Decreased Peripheral resistance
  - hypotension
- Exacerbation of underlying CAD
  - increased myocardial O<sub>2</sub> demand
- Tachycardia induced cardiomyopathy

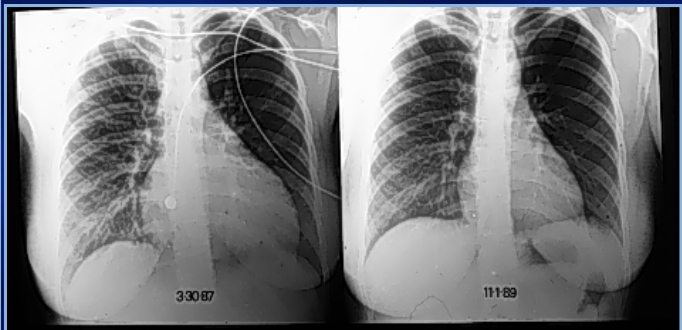
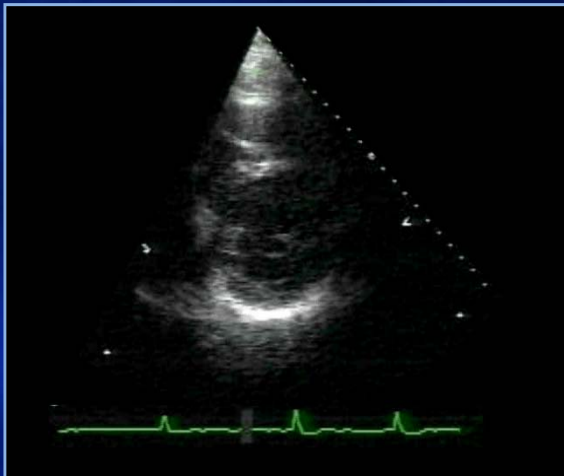


## Tachycardia Mediated Cardiomyopathy

- 25% of patients w/ LV dysfunction & AF will have improved EF with rate control
- Usually *unaware* of rhythm
- Resting heart rate - poor indicator of overall rate control
- Consider in all pts with AF & LV dysfunction

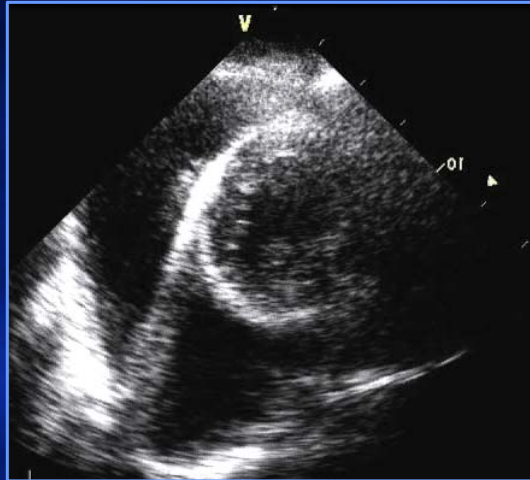
Grogan M et al. AJC, 1992.

## 2 Years after Cardioversion and Treatment of Hyperthyroidism

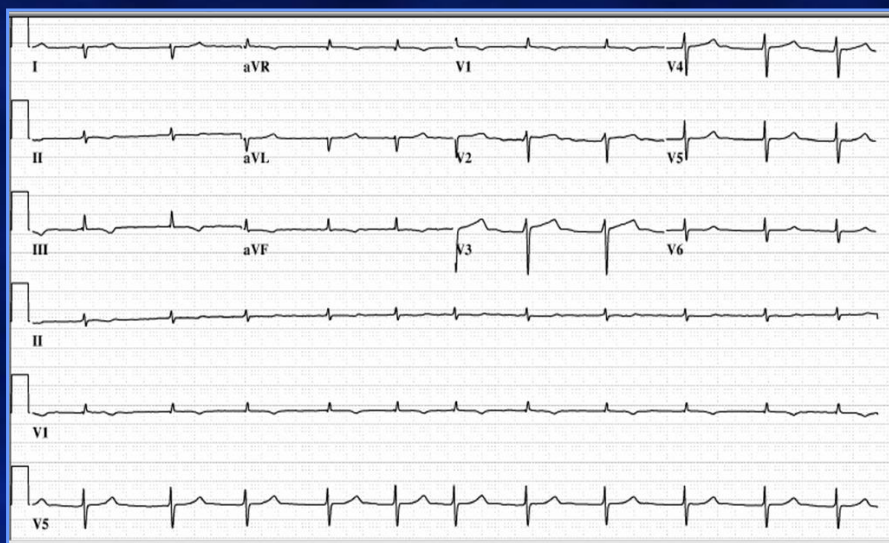




## Hypothyroidism: Large Pericardial Effusion

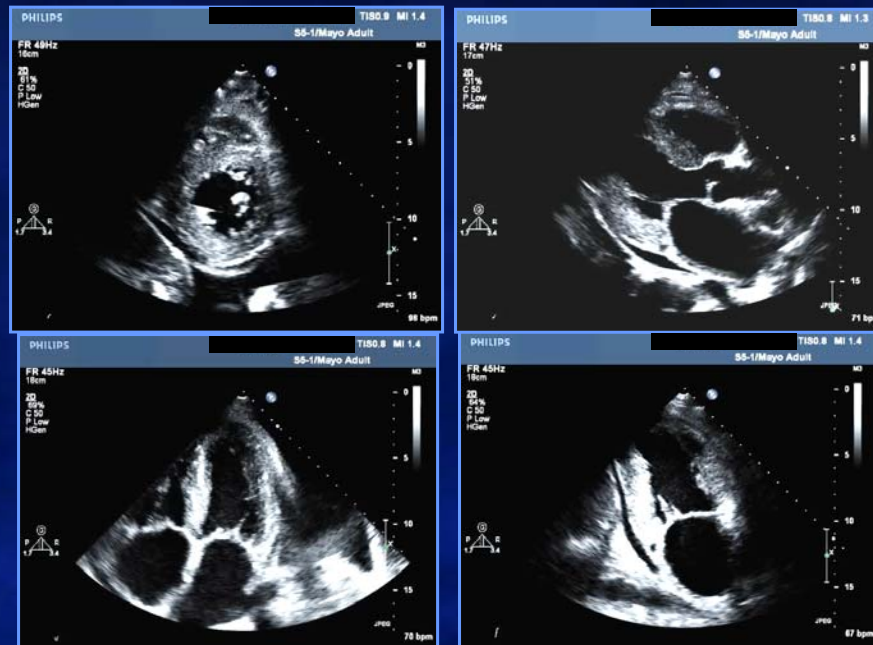


## 43 year old man

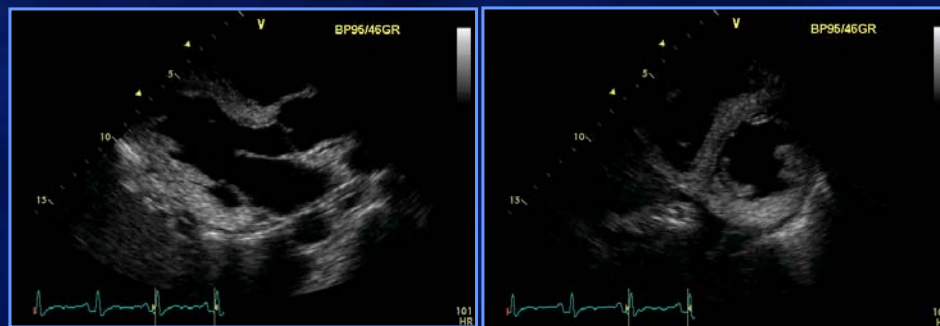




## 43 year old man with amyloidosis

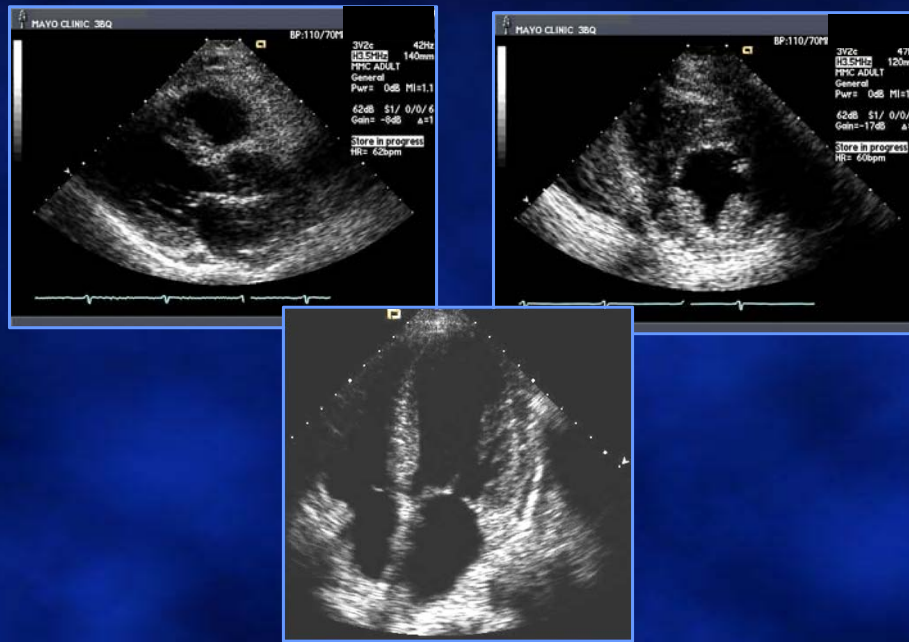


## Primary Hyperoxaluria



- Rare metabolic disorder with autosomal recessive inheritance
- PHO type 1 (0.11 - 0.26 per 100,000 live births)
- Enzymatic defect resulting in enhanced conversion of glyoxalate to poorly soluble oxalate which is excreted in the urine





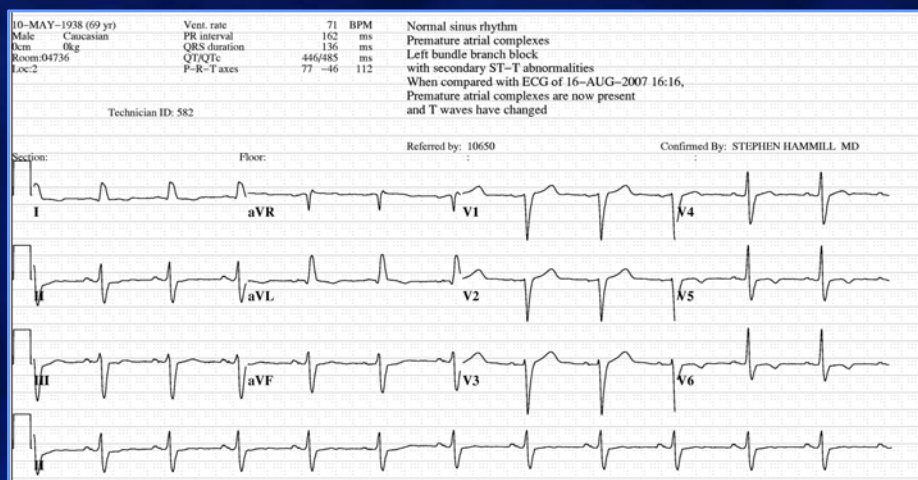


## A 60 year old male farmer is referred for evaluation of dyspnea

- NYHA Class III symptoms
- PMH: Type 2 DM
- Abnormal LFT's
- Physical Exam:
  - 110/70 mmHg, HR 70 BPM
  - S3 gallop
  - Bronze skin

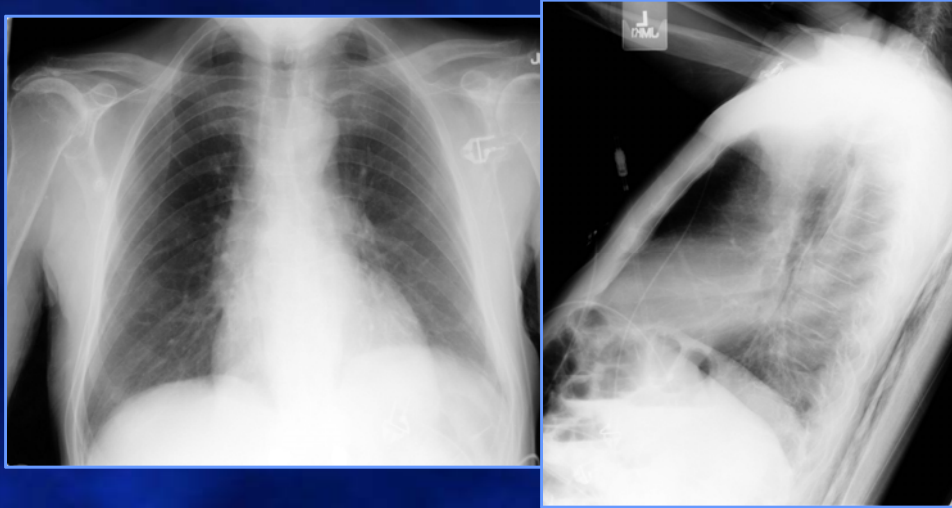


## EKG





## CXR

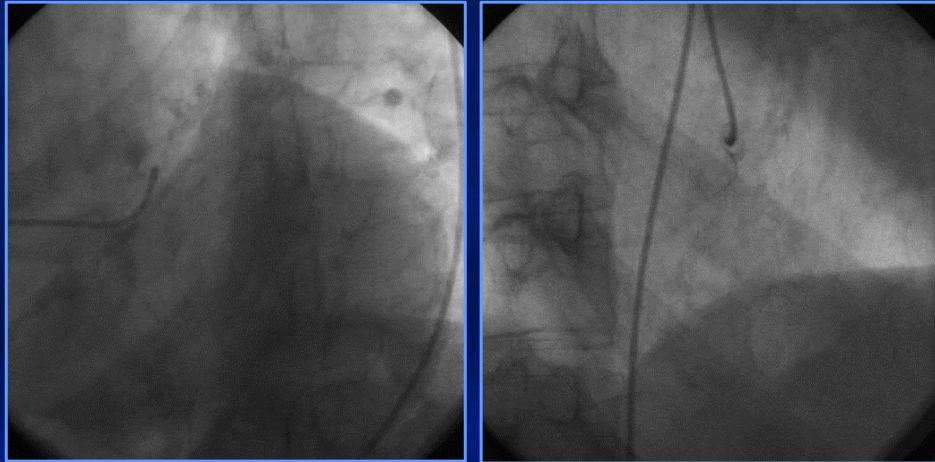


## Apical Images





## Coronary Angiography

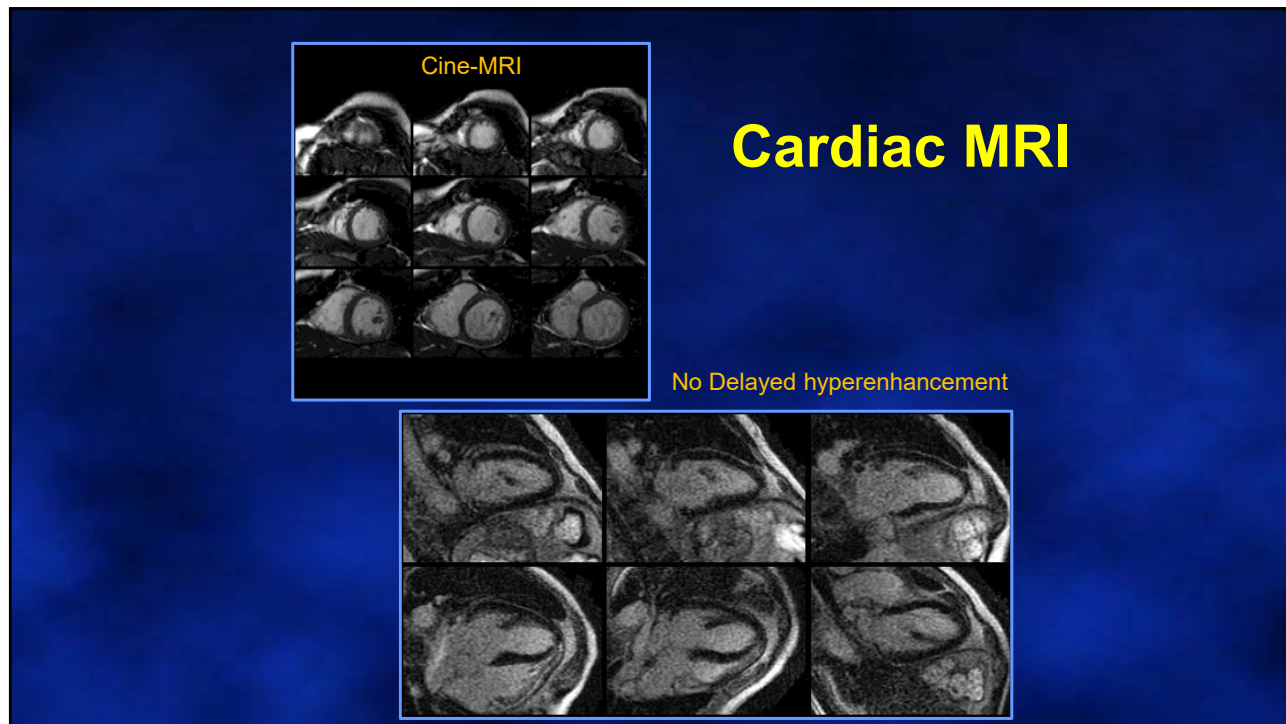


60 year old male farmer with Type 2 DM, bronze skin, and abnormal LFT's

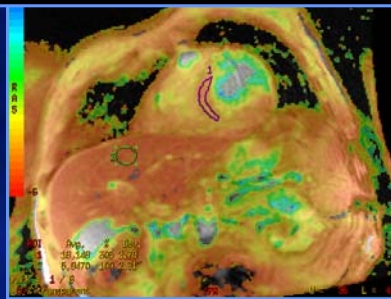
What is the most likely diagnosis?

- a. Cardiac hemochromatosis
- b. Cardiac amyloidosis
- c. Cardiac sarcoidosis
- d. Fabry's Disease
- e. Carcinoid syndrome





- The evaluation of the T2\* relaxation time is an excellent noninvasive correlate of myocardial iron deposition and is a useful technique to follow response to iron-chelation therapy.
- Myocardial T2\* has been shown to have no relation to serum ferritin and liver iron overload.
- T2\* relaxation time predicts CHF and Arrhythmias



- This patient had a T2\* relaxation time of 20ms that suggests hemochromatosis

Circulation 2009;120:1961-8  
Eur Heart J 2001;22:2171-9.

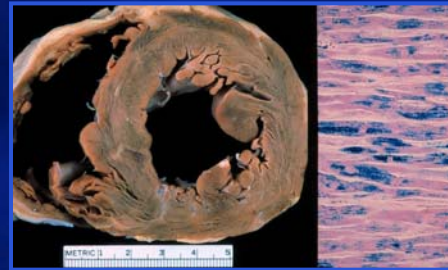


## Hemochromatosis

- ↑ total body iron – intracellular deposits in heart, liver, pituitary, pancreas, gonads, skin
- Think of this when DCM seen in setting of hepatic dysfunction; diabetes, tanned skin
- Diagnosis is critical, since reversible
  - Males 9:1
  - 2-3/1000 population
  - Ferritin usually > 500, transferrin > 50%
- Normal wall thickness
- Arrhythmias, conduction abnormalities

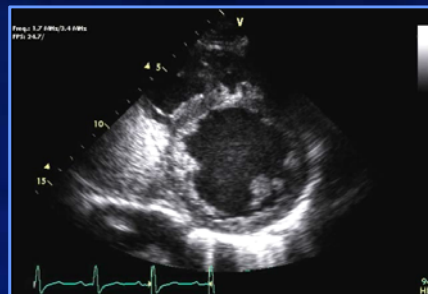
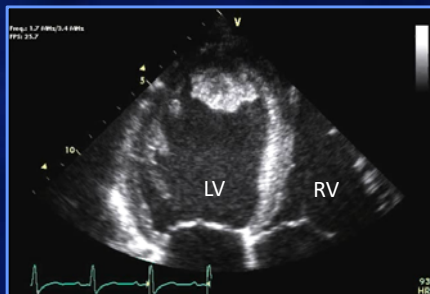


**Intracellular iron**  
– directly toxic to myocytes



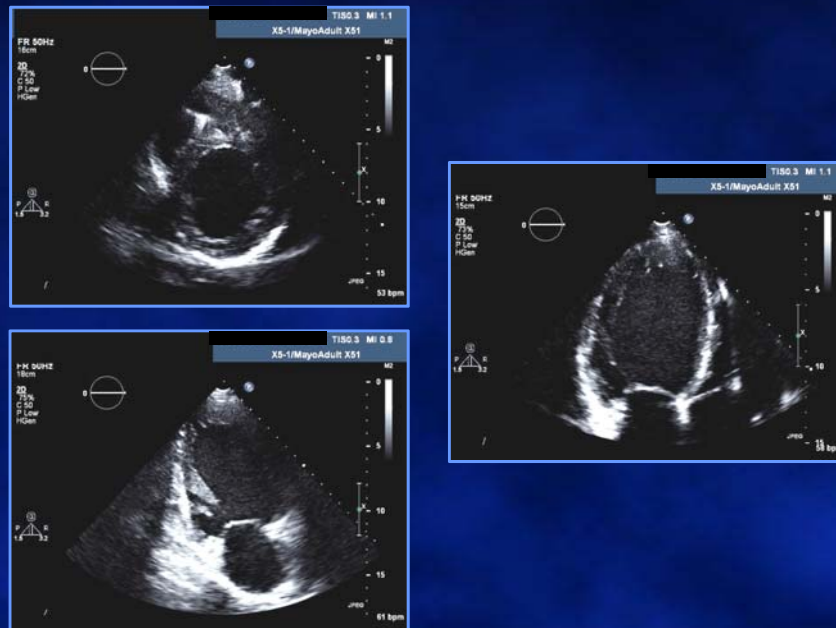
Courtesy of William Edwards, MD

## 26 year old with Hemochromatosis





## After Tx with Deferoxamine



## Heomochromatosis: Take Home Points

- The Iron Heart is a weak heart...
- Hemochromatosis may be a cause of idiopathic dilated cardiomyopathy
  - Reversible with treatment
- Cardiac MRI (T2 relaxation time) is important in helping to establish diagnosis and monitoring treatment effects



## Conclusions:

### Systemic Diseases and the Echo Boards

- Carcinoid Syndrome
- Hypereosinophilic endomyocardial disease
- Sarcoidosis
- Systemic Lupus Erythematosus
- Scleroderma/Crest: Pulm Hypertension
- Amyloidosis
- Hyper or Hypothyroidism
- Radiation Heart Disease
- Drug Induced Valve Disease
- Hemochromatosis



## Thank You!

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### Acknowledgements:

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Dr. Mark Callahan

